

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-06

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APPROVED BY EA/PRCM:HETTHAYER
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R 041442Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USLO PEKING
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 113519

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, US, CH

SUBJECT: CHINESE INVITATION FOR AMERICAN OIL FIRMS

1. NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR US-CHINA TRADE PRESIDENT PHILLIPS
INFORMS US THAT PRCLO COUNSELOR PENG, ON BEHALF OF CHINA
COUNCIL FOR PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, ASKED PHIL-
LIPS MAY 3 TO ARRANGE VISITS TO PEKING BY FOUR AMERICAN
OIL FIRMS TO ENGAGE IN EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS OF OFFSHORE
OIL EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION. CHINESE ASK THAT DELE-
GATIONS COME ONE AT A TIME AT TWO WEEK INTERVALS AND BE AT
HIGH LEVEL. CHINESE WANT PENNZOIL DELEGATION TO COME
FIRST AND BE LED BY HUGH LIDETKE FOLLOWED BY (ORDER UN-
SPECIFIED) EXXON, PHILLIPS PETROLEUM AND UNION OIL.

2. PHILLIPS HAS NOTIFIED AMERICAN FIRMS AND ANTICIPATES
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THAT OPENING PENNZOIL VISIT WILL TAKE PLACE IN JUNE.
POSTS SHOULD NOTE THAT WE HAVE AGREED TO HOLD INFO CLOSELY
AS COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE.

3. PHILLIPS SPECULATES THAT CHINA PETROLEUM CORP. MAY NOW
BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS SOME FORM OF PRODUCTION-SHARING
ARRANGEMENT UNDER WHICH AMERICAN FIRMS WOULD PROVIDE RISK

CAPITAL AND EQUIPMENT FOR JOINT EXPLORATION/EXPLOITATION
IN RETURN FOR SHARE OF OIL PRODUCED. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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